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TRAWDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council - - - - Mrs. I. G. Banks.

Health Committee.

W. Banks (Chairman)
Mrs. I. G. Banks.
G. Bannister.
J. Blackhurst.
E. Driver.
A. Harrup.
H. T. Irving (Vice-chairman).
W. Kay.
Mrs. M. I. F. Lachman.
T. Leyland.
R. Spencer.

Clerk of the Council

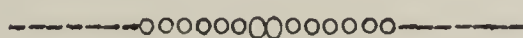
William R. Fisher.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

P. G. Holt, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

R. H. Short, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.



Council Offices,
Trawden Forest,
Colne.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and Environmental Conditions of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December 1969. The layout follows the usual pattern and the contents include all the items requested by the Department of Health and Social Security.

The population of the District has continued to increase, by only a few this year in comparison with the large increase of 1968. To confirm the trend it should be noted that the number of inhabited houses went up from 777 to 799. Taking into account the natural decrease of population i.e. excess of deaths over births, this means that people must be migrating into Trawden to live.

Notifiable infectious disease virtually disappeared in 1969, only one case of jaundice being notified. This is one aspect of our work which has been highly successful and the future battle will be against complacency of parents who have never experienced the horror of such diseases as diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

I wish to thank the Committee for their interest in the work of the Health Department and Mr. Short for his good work in a multitude of duties during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your Obedient Servant

P. G. HOLT,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of District (acres)	6,815
Population (Census 1951)	2,114
Population (Census 1961)	1,951
Population (mid-1969 -Registrar General's Estimate)	2,020
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1961)	742
" " " " 1969	799
Rateable Value	£42,961
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£158

The social conditions of the District are very satisfactory. Being of only modest size there is a well developed community spirit and a high degree of self-help.

There is very little unemployment; indeed there is a daily influx of workers to the town from neighbouring districts. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are textile manufacture, agriculture, light engineering, and laundering.

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births (Legitimate)	14	8	22
Live Births (Illegitimate)... ..	2	1	3
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 25

Live Births per 1,000 estimated population:

Crude Rate	12.4
Adjusted Rate (Comparability Factor - 1.26)	15.6

Still Births	Nil.
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	Nil.

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths (all causes)	16	15	31
Deaths from Maternal Causes	-	Nil	Nil
Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths of Infants (under four weeks)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths of Infants (under one week)	Nil	Nil	Nil

Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population:

Crude Rate	15.3
Adjusted Rate (Comparability Factor - 0.90)	13.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Nil

Classification of Causes of Death during 1969.

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus... ..	-	1	1
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	-	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	5	4	9
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	-	1	1
Other forms of Heart Disease	-	1	1
Cerebrovascular Disease	1	2	3
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	2	4
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	1	4
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	-	1	1
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 31

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE YEARS 1965 - 1969

Year	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths (all causes)	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality	
					Under 4 weeks	Under 1 year
1969	25	Nil	31	Nil	Nil	Nil
1968	26	1	29	Nil	Nil	Nil
1967	25	Nil	31	Nil	1	1
1966	25	1	29	Nil	Nil	1
1965	16	Nil	33	Nil	Nil	Nil

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The main work of the health department concerns the control of infectious diseases and the environment in which we live - a service for which the council is responsible.

The present section of the report relates to those health services which concern the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than the population as a whole. The majority of these services are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council, which has delegated much of the day-to-day administration to the Divisional Health Committee (No.6) on which Trawden has a representative. Co-ordination of the services is facilitated by the fact that your Medical Officer of Health acts also as Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

National Health Service Act, 1964, Part III.

1. Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children:

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics - Bank House, Albert Road, Colne.
 Child Welfare and Immunisation - Church Hall, Trawden
 (alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4 p.m.)
 Hartley Hospital, Colne.
 (alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4 p.m.)

2. Domiciliary Midwifery - two midwives are resident in Colne.

3. Health Visiting - from Bank House, Colne.

4. Home Nursing - Trawden is served by a District Nursing Sister.

5. Home Help Service including night service.

6. Ambulance Service - Trawden is served from Nelson Ambulance Station. All vehicles are under radio control.

7. Mental Health - care supervision and after-care of the Mentally Ill. A junior training centre for mentally subnormal children is available at Nelson, and a hostel, with adjacent workshop, has been built at Colne for the employment of subnormal adults.

8. Prevention of Illness - care and after-care. This includes Health Education, convalescent care, prevention of Tuberculosis, Chiropody, and loan of nursing equipment.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Welfare Services.

1. Homes for the aged - there are five homes in the Division belonging to the Lancashire County Council; in addition, two private homes for the aged, which are registered and regularly inspected.

2. Temporary accommodation is provided by the County Council for cases of urgent need such as eviction, fire, flooding, etc.

3. Handicapped persons - registers are kept so that all may be acquainted with and have the benefits of the help available. This includes occupational therapy, holiday schemes, and membership of one of the clubs, the nearest being at the British Legion Headquarters, Colne.

4. Section 47. No action was necessary during the year.

Education Act, 1944 - School Health Services.

The School Nurse is also the District Health Visitor and thus knows all the children from babyhood. She and the School Medical Officer Visit the Trawden School regularly. In addition to the routine medical and dental inspections of children, various clinics, some attended by visiting specialists, are provided for the correction and treatment of certain defects.

Hospitals and Laboratory.

Hospital facilities for the Urban District are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee.

Patients with infectious diseases who cannot be suitably cared for at home would go to Marsden Hospital.

Maternity cases are now admitted to the new Edith Watson Unit at Burnley.

Pathological specimens and food samples are examined at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, and the Public Health Laboratory, Preston.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Only one case of infectious disease was notified during the year, i.e. Infective Jaundice.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified in the past five years is as follows:-

1969	...	...	1
1968	...	...	5
1967	...	...	24
1966	...	...	8
1965	...	...	9

In an area such as Trawden the great majority of the younger school children will all attend the school in the town, and so will not come into regular contact with infectious diseases endemic in the larger urban areas. But when an infection is introduced, there will be a sudden and all embracing epidemic, which only abates when the supply of contacts is exhausted.

For this reason we must not relax our aim to have every baby protected from diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, and tetanus (lock-jaw). A vaccine against measles is also available. The young mothers of today have never known the tragedies of diphtheria, and we hope that our children will not know that of poliomyelitis.

Immunisation is a free service, available either from the family doctor or at child welfare centres.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was required during 1969.

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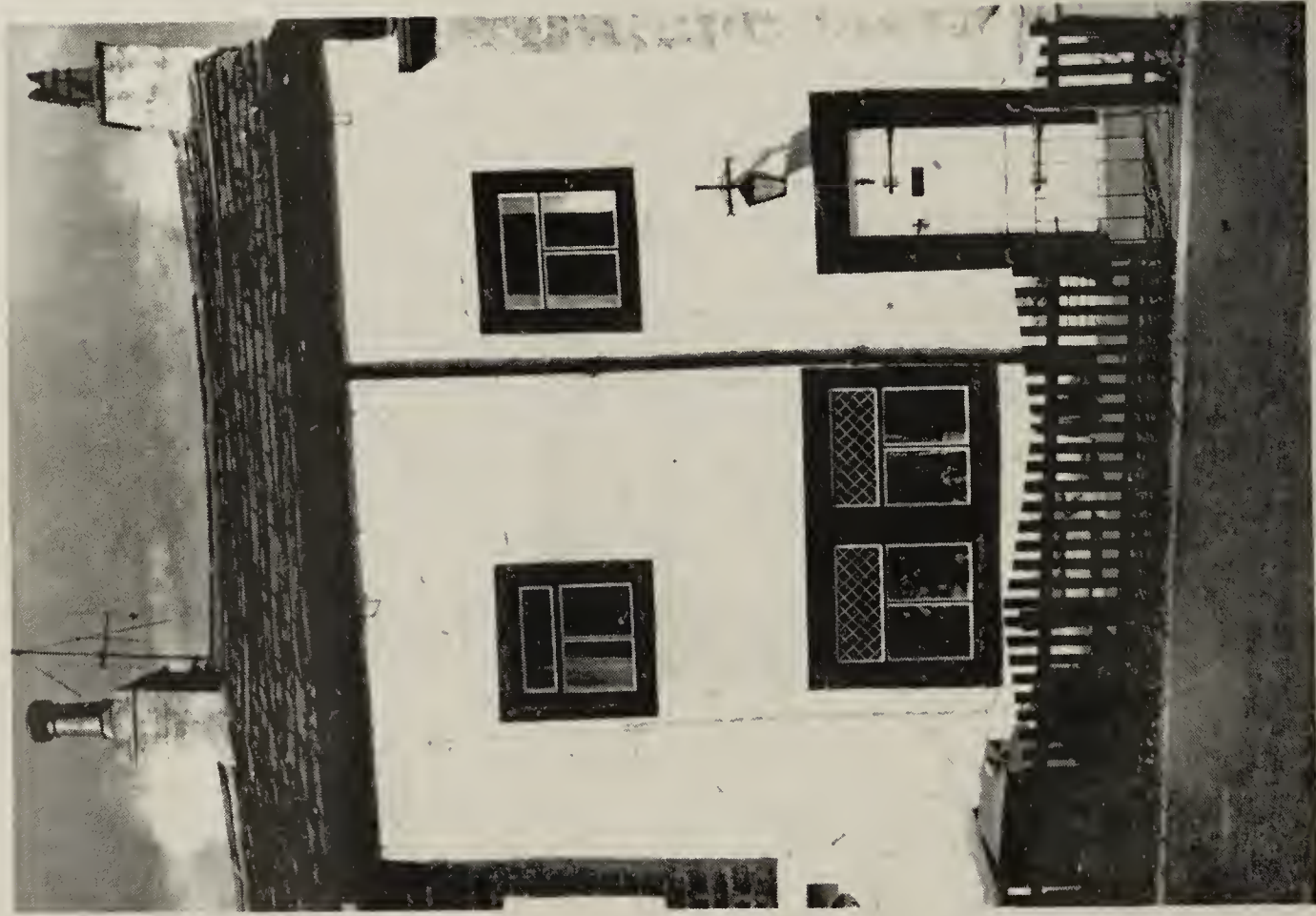
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OWNERS ARE TAKING INCREASING PRIDE IN THE EXTERNAL
APPEARANCE OF THEIR HOUSES

Above : Houses improved by sandblasting.

Left : The effective use of paint finishes in
the restoration of older property.



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR

ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1969.

Dr. P. G. Holt,
Medical Officer of Health,
Trawden U. D. C.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Circumstances of the area for the year 1969.

The conditions prevalent in a particular environment are generally acknowledged to be reflected in the vital statistics. If this method of assessment is applied to the Trawden Urban District, then we must conclude that the circumstances during the past year have been exceptionally good, for there was only one case of infectious disease notified, there were no cases of food poisoning, no maternal deaths, no still births, and no infant deaths.

It would seem that many of the environmental health problems of yesteryear have been solved - probably due to the combination of education, enlightenment, scientific progress and affluence.

The classic public health nuisance is becoming much less common, and the scourge of a severe epidemic of infectious disease is now almost unknown in this country. People are becoming more conscious of the aesthetic effect of their surroundings, and this is very evident in Trawden where owners and occupiers are paying increasing attention to the improvement and the external appearance of their houses.

During the year the routine work of the health department has continued satisfactorily and without cause for alarm of any sort, but vigilance must not be relaxed if these circumstances are to be maintained.

My thanks are due to you for your advice and help during the year, and to the Health Committee for their concern and interest. I also wish to thank my colleagues on the staff for their willing help and co-operation.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H. SHORT,

Public Health Inspector.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Public Supply.

The mains water for the Urban District is supplied by the North Calder Water Board, and is derived from springs on Boulsworth Hill.

In order to utilise fully the sources of water on Boulsworth Hill and to provide adequate storage for Trawden, a new reservoir of 500,000 gallons capacity was completed at a cost of £56,760 and officially opened on 21st September 1968. The reservoir, constructed of reinforced concrete at 1,046 feet A.O.D. is 103 feet long by 78 feet 6 inches wide and 10 feet deep, and incorporates a pump house containing up-to-date treatment plant and control apparatus.

During the year 23 samples of water from the public supply were taken for Bacteriological Examination and 4 for Chemical Analysis. The supply is adequate, soft and of good quality. The fluoride content of the water is negligible.

No. of houses supplied	...	...	...	716
No. of business premises supplied	...	...	...	61
No of places of worship supplied	...	...	...	7

Hardness.

	p.p.m.
Temporary Hardness (removable by boiling)	30
Permanent Hardness (after boiling)	5
Total Hardness	<u>35</u>

Private Water Supplies.

102 houses and farms, which have no public mains within a reasonable distance, are supplied from private sources.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewers of the District discharge into the Colne Corporation sewer at Cottontree, via a Lea Recorder, and treatment is carried out by Colne Corporation under agreement.

There are approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of sewers in the district.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No serious pollution of the rivers and streams in the District occurred during the year. The Lancashire River Authority are notified whenever pollution is observed or reported.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

62 properties are on the conservancy system, the majority of which are in outlying locations. The Housing Act 1969 has provided for a further increase in the grants available for the installation of septic tanks where there is no sewer available. Three houses were provided with septic tank drainage during the year, and further proposals have been received and are under consideration.

There has been an increase in pail closet conversions during the year, but the number of waste-water-closets converted to fresh water closets was disappointing. The obsolete and unhygienic W.W.C. seems reluctant to depart from the scene.

Sanitary Accommodation at the end of 1969:-

Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	67
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	112
Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	855
Pail Closets converted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	5
Waste Water Closets converted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Septic Tanks provided during the year	...	...	...	...	...	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of refuse is carried out fortnightly from approximately 950 ashbins, by Karrier Bantam side-loading vehicle.

Disposal is by tipping in a disused quarry at Winewall. Refuse tip fires have again been experienced from time to time, but these have been of comparatively short duration, having been dealt with efficiently and promptly by the Lancashire Fire Brigade, whose services are very much appreciated.

The salvage of waste paper has continued during the year and 20 tons 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. were collected, which realised an income of £162/7/10.

A charge of 2/6 per bin is made for the collection of trade waste. The collection and disposal of bulky articles, such as unwanted furniture, is carried out free of charge from domestic premises.

The hiring of a motor gully emptier for the cleansing of road gullies has been discontinued, and the work is now carried out exclusively by direct labour.

The pail closets in the area, except a number in outlying locations are serviced weekly by private contractor using equipment and transport provided by the Council.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Council own and maintain two modern public conveniences and one public urinal, and these are cleansed weekly. Public conveniences, utilising pail closets, are also maintained at Wycoller.

In common with most Local Authorities, Trawden U. D. C. has suffered the effects of vandalism, although damage to Public Conveniences has not been as severe as in some districts, and has been mainly confined to broken windows and superficial damage to plumbing installations.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Inspections have been made of the shops and offices in the area and no legal action under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 has been necessary.

FACTORIES.

Factories Act 1961.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	No. on Register.	Type of Property		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	9	19	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	9	19	-	-

There were 2 outworkers resident in the District.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in district	980	71
(b) Total no. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	31	8
(c) No. of (b) infested by - rats	4	2
- mice.	27	5
(d) Total no. of properties inspected for rats and /or mice for reasons other than notification.	7	5
(e) No. of (d) infested by - rats	2	-
- mice	-	-

Throughout the Trawden Urban District mice are now completely immune and resistant to Warfarin, and alpha-chloralose is used exclusively for their control. Warfarin continues to be used successfully against the brown rat.

Treatment of Sewers for Rats. Following the baiting of the sewers a very minor infestation was recorded. The poison bait used consisted of a ready-mix of Warfarin '5', pinhead oatmeal, castor sugar, technical white oil, and a preservative (paranitrophenol). The baits were laid in muslin bags suspended in the sewer manholes.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

No legal action was necessary under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

DISINFESTATION.

No cases of serious infestation by insect pests have occurred requiring action by the Local Authority. Advice and assistance has been given where sought in minor cases, particularly in respect of cockroaches which now seem to be the most common species of insect pest causing annoyance to householders.

HOUSING.

The housing conditions in the area continue to be generally good and although many of the houses are old and of the terrace type, the majority of these are well maintained and provided with modern amenities.

During the year 25 Standard Grants were approved under the Housing Acts, 1964 and 1969, bringing the total to 198 since the scheme commenced. This means that 24.8% of the houses in the Urban District have been improved by grant aid since 1959.

Statistics.

Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	799
" " dwellinghouses inspected	...	...	...	...	109
" " houses closed	...	...	...	...	nil
" " " demolished	...	...	...	...	nil
" " back-to-back houses	...	...	...	...	15
" " other houses with no through ventilation	...	...	...	...	52

Standard Grants.

Applications submitted to Local Authority	...	...	25
" approved by " "	...	...	25
Work completed and grants paid	...	...	29



RECENTLY COMPLETED COUNCIL HOUSING

Above : At Holme Crescent, showing two bedroom flats on the left.

Below : Three bedroom houses at Bannister Close.

Local Authority Housing.

The number of houses owned by the Local Authority is 100.
This includes 20 bungalows and 4 ground floor flats for old persons.

MILK SUPPLY.

Sampling.

Total number of samples taken and submitted for biological examination - 184.

Results.

	Positive.	Negative.	Equivocal.
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring Test	27	146	11
(c) " - Culture.	20	13	3

In the case of a positive Brucella result the milk from the cow is sent for heat treatment or the affected cow is removed from the herd. The producer is advised as to milking methods in order to prevent the spread of Brucella Abortus to the milk of the remaining cows in the herd. Producers have again proved most co-operative during the year, and have shown a keenness to work towards a brucella free milk supply.

ICE CREAM.

There are 7 premises registered for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Regular inspections have been made during the year. There is one manufacturer of ice-cream in the area. Three mobile ice-cream vendors from neighbouring areas trade in the district.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

The standard of cleanliness and food handling practice of the traders in the District is generally good. No action was found necessary under the Regulations.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

FOOD PREMISES.

The following are the food premises in the Urban District:-

Greengrocers and provision dealers	...	...	...	10
Fruiterers and wet fish shops...	...	...	...	1
Meat Shops.	...	...	...	2
Bakers and confectioners.	...	...	...	2
Sweets, minerals etc.	...	...	...	1
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens etc.	...	...	...	6

MISCELLANEOUS.

There are no caravan or camping sites, no common lodging houses, no houses let in multiple occupation, and no offensive trades in the District.



